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PATENT SPECIFICATION

626,797

No. 16417/47.



Application Date: June 20, 1947.

Complete Specification Left: July 23, 1947.

Complete Specification Accepted: July 21, 1949.

Index at acceptance:—Class 91, D1b1.

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION

Improvements in or relating to Washing Devices

I, DAISY WINIFRED ADAMS, of Flat 1, 6, Wilbury Gardens, Hove, Sussex, a British Subject, do hereby declare the nature of this invention to be as follows:—

5 The present invention relates to washing devices and has for its object to provide a useful device whereby small pieces of soap usually regarded as waste pieces may be effectively utilised in a convenient manner for washing purposes.

10 According to the invention the device consists of a cake or slab of pumice stone, or a substitute therefor, of substantially the size and shape of an ordinary cake of soap, having in one or more of its surfaces a recess or recesses adapted to receive waste, or other pieces of soap, which can be pressed therein. Preferably the recess or recesses have a lip or small inwardly projecting flange round their edges to hold the soap securely in position.

It will be appreciated that such a device constitutes a holder or retainer for soap which when softened with the aid of water can be readily pressed into the recess or recesses with the fingers, even when in small pieces. Also it will be appreciated that the device can be used like an ordinary cake of soap for washing the hands, with added advantage derived from the abrasive properties of the pumice stone.

35 It can also be rubbed upon a face flannel to transfer soap thereto for washing the face. Furthermore the device can also be used like a cake of soap for washing clothes.

40 It will be appreciated that in carrying the invention into practice the device may be made in many different forms, inasmuch as the cake or slab of pumice stone, or the like, may be rectangular, round or any

other convenient or desired shape although it will preferably be of a shape and size customary for cakes of soap. 45

The shape of the recess or recesses is also immaterial since they may be round, rectangular, triangular or any other desired shape. There may be a single recess in one face only of the cake or slab of pumice stone, or the like, or there may be several recesses in said face. 50

Alternatively there may be one or more recesses in several faces of the slab, or in all of its faces. Preferably, in such cases, however, the recesses in one face do not communicate with the recesses in the opposite face, so that the recesses become bores extending through the cake or slab; for this reason the recesses in one face may be staggered in relation to the recesses in the opposite face, or alternatively the recesses may be of a length less than half the thickness of the cake or slab, i.e. the distance between the opposite faces of the cake or slab concerned, so that the recesses in opposite faces are separated by an intermediate wall. 55 60 65

The pumice block, or slab, may be cut from solid pumice stone, or may be made by the consolidation under pressure of pumice powder. As a substitute for pumice stone the cake or slab may be made from a material, such as cement, which does not dissolve or disintegrate in water, and is so made as to have a somewhat rough or abrasive surface. 70 75

Dated this 20th day of June, 1947.

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COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

Improvements in or relating to Washing Devices

I, DAISY WINIFRED ADAMS, of Flat 1, 6, Wilbury Gardens, Hove, Sussex, a British Subject, do hereby declare the nature of this invention and in what manner the

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same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—

The present invention relates to washing devices comprising a body portion or block of solid material insoluble in water having grooves or recesses in one or more of its faces to receive a filling of soap, so that small pieces of soap, usually regarded as waste pieces, may be effectively utilised for washing purposes, by pressing them into said grooves or recesses.

The object of the invention is to provide an improved construction for such a device, and according to the invention the device consists of a cake or slab of pumice stone, or a substitute therefor having a rough or abrasive surface, of substantially the size and shape of an ordinary cake of soap, having in one or more of its surfaces a recess or recesses with undercut or equivalent side walls adapted to receive waste, or other pieces of soap, which can be pressed therein and retained by said undercut or equivalent side walls.

Prior to this invention the body portion or block has been made of various materials, other than those used according to this invention, such for example, as wood, porcelain, china and stone, and also with a body made of wood, celluloid, or pottery, it has been proposed to make a soap recess with sloping or undercut edges. It has also been proposed to provide a block of pumice or other stone with superficial transverse grooves of half round section for the reception of a soap filling.

It will be appreciated that the device constitutes a holder for soap which, when softened with the aid of water, can be readily pressed into the recess or recesses with the fingers, even when in small pieces and will be securely retained therein. Also it will be appreciated that the device can be used like an ordinary cake of soap for washing the hands, with the added advantage derived from the abrasive properties of the pumice stone.

It can also be rubbed upon a face flannel to transfer soap thereto for washing the face. Furthermore the device can also be used like a cake of soap for washing clothes.

It will be appreciated that in carrying the invention into practice the device may be made in many different forms, inasmuch as the cake or slab of pumice stone, or the like, may be rectangular, round or any other convenient or desired shape, although it will preferably be of a shape and size customary for cakes of soap.

The shape of the recess or recesses is also immaterial since they may be round, rectangular, triangular or any other desired shape. There may be a single

recess in one face only of the cake or slab of pumice stone, or the like, or there may be several recesses in said face.

Alternatively there may be one or more recesses in several faces of the slab, or in all of its faces including the side and/or end faces. Preferably, in such cases, however, the recesses in one face do not communicate with the recesses in the opposite face, so that no holes are formed extending completely through the cake or slab; for this reason the recesses in one face may be staggered in relation to the recesses in the opposite face, or alternatively the recesses may be of a depth less than half the thickness of the cake or slab, i.e. the distance between the opposite faces of the cake or slab concerned, so that the recesses in opposite faces are separated by an intermediate wall.

In order that the invention may be clearly understood and readily carried into practice it is illustrated, by way of example only, by the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the preferred form of washing and soap saving device according to the invention;

Figure 2 is a cross section of the device of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a cross section illustrating a modification;

Figure 4 is a perspective view of another modified form; and

Figures 5, 6 and 7 are detail views to a larger scale illustrating alternative methods of undercutting the side walls of the recesses.

Referring to Figures 1 and 2, the device comprises a body portion 1 consisting of a block or the like of pumice stone, or an equivalent thereof, such as a block of cement, which is shaped substantially of the shape of a cake of soap, and is in the drawing shown of oval shape.

In one face of the block 1 is cut, moulded or cast a recess 2 the side walls of which are undercut, and this recess is adapted to receive a filling of soap which may consist of odd pieces and fragments of soap which are pressed into the recess 2, preferably when soft and wet. Thus pieces of soap which are too small for use in the normal manner can be pressed into the recess 2 so as to become conglomerated together and form a filling 3 for the recess. Consequently the device as a whole may be used for washing purposes, much in the same way as an ordinary cake of soap, with the added advantage arising from the abrasive qualities of the pumice block 1. The device therefore serves both as a soap saving device, since it permits the continued use of small pieces of soap which would normally be regarded as useless and

thrown away, and also as a very efficient washing device. The recess 3 may be of any desired depth, preferably not exceeding $\frac{1}{2}$ of the thickness of the block 1.

8 Figure 3 illustrates a modification wherein a recess 2 with undercut side walls is provided in both surfaces of the body 1 to receive a soap filling 3.

10 Figure 4 illustrates another construction applied also, by way of example, to a rectangular block 1, in which a plurality of circular holes or recesses 2 with undercut edges are bored in the various faces of the block to receive the filling of soap 15 or soap fragments. The holes in opposite faces may be staggered in relation to one another so as not to form bores running right through the block, or they may be shallow enough to produce intervening 20 partitions or walls.

As previously indicated, the edges of the recess or recesses 2 are undercut preferably as shown in detail in Figure 5. Other equivalent methods of forming the 25 edges of the recesses are illustrated by Figures 6 and 7. As shown in Figure 5 the edge of the recess 2 is simply cut obliquely so as to form an inwardly inclined side wall 4, with the mouth of the recess overhanging. As shown in 30 Figure 6 the bottom portion 6 of the recess 2 is cut wider than the mouth portion 5, so as to form a lip or inwardly directed flange 7 round the mouth of the recess 2, whilst as shown in Figure 7 the wider 35 bottom portion 6 of the recess has a rounded side wall 8 instead of the flat side wall of Figure 6.

As already indicated, the body 1 of the 40 device is preferably made of pumice stone, and this may be cut from the solid substance, or made of pumice powder consolidated under pressure. It may, however, be made of an equivalent material having 45 substantially the same properties for the purposes of the invention. Thus the body 1 may be made by a moulding process from cement, preferably mixed with fine sand,

so as to produce a stone like substance with a rough surface which will act abrasively. 50

Since odd fragments of soap which are too small for further use in the normal manner can be charged into the recesses, and can thus be completely used up, the device acts in known manner as a soap 55 saving device.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim 60 is:—

1. A soap saving and washing device, comprising a body portion of pumice stone, or an equivalent material with a rough or abrasive surface, having in one or 65 more of its faces a recess or recesses with undercut or equivalent side walls, adapted to receive soap or waste pieces or fragments of soap which can be pressed therein and retained by said undercut or equivalent side walls. 70

2. A soap saving and washing device, comprising a body portion moulded or cast from cement and sand, having in one or 75 more of its faces a recess or recesses with undercut or equivalent side walls, adapted to receive soap or waste pieces or fragments of soap which can be pressed therein and retained by said undercut or equivalent side walls. 80

3. A device according to either of the preceding claims, wherein there are soap receiving recesses in the side and/or end faces of a rectangular block constituting said body portion. 85

4. Soap saving and washing devices, substantially as herein described with reference to, and as illustrated by the accompanying drawings.

Dated this 16th day of July, 1947.

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[This Drawing is a reproduction of the Original on a reduced scale.]

